

Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY C:HSOHNENFELDT
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S/S - MR. BRIDGES
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 229628 TOSEC 270229

NODIS
CHEROKEE, FROM SONNENFELDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SOVIET ACTIONS ON KISSINGER AFRICA TRIP

REF: SECTO 27117

1. I DID SEE MATERIAL YOU MENTION PARA 1 REFTEL AND ASKED IT BE PROVIDED SAUNDERS. PUBLIC SOVIET BARRAGE CONTINUES TODAY WITH NASTY PRAVDA PIECE WHICH IS ALSO BEING SENT YOU. I HAD ALSO BEEN TRYING TO TRACK DOWN OASIS FOR COMMENT BY "SENIOR OFFICIAL" WIDELY REPORTED HERE TO EFFECT THAT SOVIET UN AMBASSADOR MALIK WAS LEADING SOVIET ACTIVITIES AGAINST SECRETARY'S EFFORTS. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE MALIK HAS NOT BEEN AROUND.

2. AS FOR FURTHER DEMARCHE TO VORONTSOV, I DID OF COURSE CALL HIM IN LAST FRIDAY. SEE MY MEMO DATED SEPTEMBER 10, WHICH YOU HAVE. HE HAS NOT RESPONDED, THOUGH HE PROMISED AT THAT TIME HE WOULD TRANSMIT MY DEMARCHE AT ONCE. MEANWHILE, HE DID SEND SCOWCROFT RESPONSE TO LATTER'S EARLIER DEMARCHE ABOUT SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LUSAKA. THAT RESPONSE,
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LIKE GROMYKO'S PARTING REMARKS TO STOESSEL, WAS UNYIELDING

AND IN EFFECT SAID SOVIETS WOULD CONTINUE THEIR "PRINCIPLED" ATTACK ON OUR EFFORTS.

3. I THINK FURTHER DEMARCHE WILL NOT HAVE ANY EFFECT AS FAR AS SOVIET BARRAGE IS CONCERNED BUT IT WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE RECORD WITH THEM PRIOR TO GROMYKO'S VISIT HERE. I HAD ALREADY POINTED OUT TO VORONTSOV AD HOMINEM CHARACTER OF EARLIER SOVIET ATTACKS ON SECRETARY. HE TOOK POSITION THAT ATTACKS WERE ON SECRETARY AS INSTITUTION NOT PERSON.

4. I PLAN TO CALL IN VORONTSOV SEPTEMBER 17 TO GIVE HIM SOME ADDITIONAL SUBSTANCE ON BASIS FOR OUR PNG ACTION AGAINST STEPANOV AND WILL ON THAT OCCASION MAKE POINTS A, B AND C REFTTEL. I WILL ADD, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS INCREASINGLY INCITING TO BLOODSHED IN THEIR OUTPUT AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO EVADE CULPABILITY IF THAT SHOULD INDEED BE OUTCOME, WHATEVER THEY MAY THINK ARE CURRENT TACTICAL ADVANTAGES FOR THEM IN THIS POSTURE AT THE MOMENT.

5. LET ME KNOW IF THIS GIVES YOU PROBLEM. HABIB

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